

SMA Sends

Two years ago, the CSA asked me to lead an effort to help us simplify the Army's Service Uniform (ASU) while maintaining tradition and utility in a way that provides quality and a tailored appearance for our Soldiers. Through talks with many leaders, command sergeants major, Soldiers in the field, and members of the extended Army family, the Chief and I conclude that the best way to maintain the tradition, to increase the utility, reduce cost to the Soldier, and to simplify our service uniforms is to eliminate the Army green and white service uniforms, and stay with the Army blue service uniform.

We have discussed this initiative with many Soldiers and leaders over the last two years. The overwhelming majority of Soldiers and leaders concur that the Army blue service uniform is the best of our ASUs. You will receive more information soon, but start telling your Soldiers now of this decision. As uniform items become available I encourage each of you to proudly wear the Army Service Uniform at every appropriate occasion. Implementing instructions for the ASU and regulation adjustments will all come in the very near future. You will find information about the uniform and its composition at <http://www.army.mil/symbols/uniforms/>.

Hooah!

SMA Kenneth O. Preston



# ARMY SERVICE UNIFORM



The current family  
of Army  
Service Uniforms



The Army  
Service Uniform retains:

**TRADITION**

**UTILITY**

**SIMPLICITY**

**QUALITY**

Uniforms to be Phased Out.



# ARMY SERVICE UNIFORM



## Army Streamlines Service Uniforms to One Blue Army Service Uniform Decision Reflects Simplicity, Utility, Quality and Tradition

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- Army service uniforms will be streamlined to one blue Army Service Uniform, the Army announced today.

"World-class Soldiers deserve a simplified, quality uniform. The blue Army Service Uniform is a traditional uniform that is consistent with the Army's most honored traditions," said Sgt. Maj. Of the Army Kenneth O. Preston.

"We have all of these variations of uniforms -- green, blue and white," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker. "It makes sense for us to go to one traditional uniform that is really sharp and high quality and which Soldiers will be very proud to wear. And that's what we've done by adopting this blue Army Service Uniform that reflects simplicity, quality, utility and tradition."

Many Soldiers already own an Army blue uniform (now to be called the Army Service Uniform) and may continue to wear it. Improvements will be made to the fabric and fit. Reduction of the number of uniforms will reduce the burden on Soldiers for purchases and alteration cost.

Introduction in the Army Military Clothing Sales Stores should begin in fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007. Introduction in the Clothing Bag should begin first quarter 2009. The Mandatory Possession Date is expected to be fourth quarter fiscal year 2011.

A wear-out date for the Army Green Class A and White dress uniforms will be determined at a later date.

The consolidation of Army service uniforms is part of a streamlining process. In 2004, the Army reduced the number of battle dress uniforms from three to one when it adopted the Army Combat Uniform in place of the Woodland Green Battle Dress Uniform (winter and summer versions) and the Desert Combat Uniform. That uniform consolidation has been a resounding success in terms of Soldier acceptance and reducing the variety of combat uniforms with which they must deal.

Army Blue as a uniform color traces its origins back to the National Blue and was first worn by Soldiers in the Continental Army of 1779.

Besides tradition, the Army Service Uniform reflects utility, simplicity and quality.

- In utility, the blue Army Service Uniform provides a basic set of components that allow Soldiers to dress from the lowest end to the highest end of service uniforms with little variation required.
- In simplicity, the blue Army Service Uniform eliminates the need for numerous sets of green Class A uniforms, service blue uniforms and, for some, Army white mess uniforms (and tunics, for women). Streamlining various service uniforms into one Army Service Uniform reduces the burden on Soldiers in the same manner that the Army Combat Uniform (ACU) did for the field utility uniform.
- In quality, the blue Army Service Uniform is made of a durable material that is suitable for daily use without special care.



## U.S. Army Uniform Timeline

1779

2006

